

FYI: Scoping process regarding Coal Train and construction and operation of the GPT (Gateway Pacific Terminal) facility at Cherry Point in Washington:

1. The landscape between Seattle and Everett is very fragile, and has been the subject of many landslides this winter due to extremely wet weather conditions.
 - a. **What are the potential results regarding landslides from the additional coal train traffic?**
 - b. **What will it cost to correct this problem?**
2. Coal dust, the result of train travel from Montana & Wyoming to Cherry Point can jeopardize the health of those living close to the tracks.
 - a. **What is the potential harm on human health due to the additional coal train traffic and its resulting coal dust?**
3. Aquaculture: the marine environment is extremely fragile.
 - a. **What will be the impact of the increased ship traffic, and the potential for contamination from this traffic, on our marine environments and marine life?**
 - b. **How will this impact the fishing industry in Puget Sound?**
4. We are using less coal in our country, due to the negative impacts on our environment relative to global warming. It makes no sense to ship this coal to another country – China – to achieve the same negative results. Global Warming is a fact, and coal burning contributes to this on a very high scale.
 - a. **What is the potential environmental impact on our country given the increased burning of our coal in China?**
5. Towns and cities, such as Edmonds, Everett, and Marysville, will have greatly increased train traffic with which to contend. Marysville, alone, has 11 crossings. Congestion is already substantial.
 - a. **How will this increased train traffic affect current transportation needs and patterns within these and other cities and towns along the rail route? How many road or rail improvements would be needed to offset the additional congestion? How much would this cost?**
6. Creating a relative handful of jobs might jeopardize existing jobs because of the unanticipated complications of accommodating the mass and mess of a short-term coal play.
 - a. **What will be the impact of these few new jobs on existing jobs in our region?**

Thank you,

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